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Top Witness Against Abel Died in Crash

The Soviet intelligence agent and defector who "fingered" Col. Rudolf . Abel, his chief in the United States, was killed in an automobile crash in 1961, according to James B. Donovan. The death of the agent, Lieut. Col. Reino Hayhanen, was never reported before Mr. Donovan's disclosure in his new book, "Stranger on a Bridge — The

Case of Colonel Abel." Newspaper archives contain no indication of Hayhanen's whereabouts or activities after November, 1961.

Mr. Donovan write in the book, published last week by Atheneum, that Hayhanen was killed in a "mysterious" accident on the Pennsylvania Turnpike four years after he testified against the Soviet master spy. Mr. Donovan was the court-appointed lawyer for Abel.